

CLAIMS

1. A process for extruding a solution of cellulose, water and an amine-oxide, which comprises

- 5 - providing a closed vessel containing said cellulose solution;
- 264?
- providing an inert gas blanket above the cellulose solution in the vessel; and
- delivering the cellulose solution to an extrusion
- 10 means for extrusion thereof.

2. Apparatus for the production of extruded blown cellulose film from a solution of cellulose, water and an amine-oxide, which comprises

- extrusion means for continuously extruding a
- 15 cellulose solution to produce a cellulose film;
- precipitation means for solidifying the extruded
- 425
- cellulose film;
- draw means positioned downstream of the extrusion
- means for continuously drawing the extruded
- 20 cellulose film from the extrusion means; and
- a tubular member for containing the precipitation
- means and for receiving an extruded blown tube.

3. A method of extruding blown film, the method comprising:

- 25 extruding material through a die to form a tube;
- 264
- maintaining the tube interior at a positive pressure;
- and
- passing the tube through a precipitation medium
- contained within a tubular member.

30 4. An extruded cellulose film having a substantially uniform distribution of fine pores throughout its cross-section.

5. A cellulosic film as in claim 4 produced by extruding a dissolved cellulose solution in N-Methyl Morpholine N-

oxide monohydrate.

6. A cellulosic film as in claim 4 with a permeability in the range 225-500 mg μm ml/min cm^2g .
- 5 7. A cellulosic film as in claim 4 with a crystalline cellulose structure in the range 36-41% as measured with wide angle X-ray defraction.

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